

REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

A Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Mayor and Council was held in Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 and was called to order by Mayor Brill Mittler at 7:08 PM. Mayor Brill Mittler read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

Present: Mayor Brill Mittler; Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits; Borough Attorney Schmierer; Borough Administrator Jover; Deputy Borough Clerk Santiago.

Absent: Councilwoman Kim-Chohan.

Mayor Brill Mittler did a ceremonial swearing-in of newest Council Member Matthew Hale.

Nicole Huff, Senior Outreach Coordinator presented the services she offers as the Borough's Outreach Coordinator at the Senior/Youth Center. Ms. Huff's services included applying for benefits with the State, housings, food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, supplemental social security, and the food pantry services. Her services are for all Highland Park resident, and she is available fulltime, Monday-Friday; make an appointment so she can give you her undivided attention. Ms. Huff can be reached at 732-819-0052 and is located 220 South 6th Avenue. Service all of Highland Park residents.

Mayor Brill Mittler asked the Council members to present their reports.

Councilman Hale reminded everyone that September is Hunger Action Month; the food pantry has been collaborating with the Middlesex County Food Bank about raising issues about hunger awareness. One in Seven Americans and almost 80,000 people in Middlesex County are food insecure. The food pantry has a calendar of events for September Hunger Awareness Month, #HungerActionMonth. The Mayor's Wellness Campaign is in need of volunteers, the Board of Health has a couple alternate openings as well if interested please complete the volunteer application and submit to the Clerk's Office.

Councilwoman Welkovits reported that Main Street Highland Park had a lot going on, Friday Farmer's Market active throughout Fall; Outdoor Movie Theater, Castle In The Sky has been rescheduled to Friday, September 14, 2018 @ 8 PM at the Municipal Parking Lot and thanked Brian Onkin for organizing and presenting the Outdoor Movie Program. This is the last chance to sign up to be a vendor or artist for the Arts in the Park event scheduled for Sunday, September 16, 2018, register at MainStreetHighlandPark@gmail.com. The town wide garage sale is scheduled for October 6-7, 2018, register at hpgaragesale@gmail.com to get your home listed. She said that the Borough has been very active with redevelopment this past year, and on the agenda tonight is 31 River Road and the vote is to send this to the Planning Board to have them take a look at re-designating this property as an area in need of redevelopment, there is a developer that is interested in a project. The Borough Council is introducing an Ordinance to require inspections and the issuance of certificates of continued occupancy for multi-dwelling and apartment buildings at the time of sale. The State usually inspects these multi-dwelling units, they are supposed to be done every five years, they have fallen behind, and we feel if we inspect them at the sale of one of these large complexes we can ensure that the properties are safe for the new residents.

Councilwoman Foster-Dublin reported that on September 12, 2018 @ 3PM would be the grand opening for the long awaited Zone 6 Youth Center on South 6th Avenue. There are young people painting their murals inside the center, they have many ideas to improve the center and a lot of good energy around the project and they are anxiously awaiting the center open. She invited all to attend the grand opening anytime between 3-6 pm on September 12, 2018. On August 31, 2018 at the HP Owl football game Officer Sean Bibby was honored by the New Brunswick/Highland Park VFW for his years of service in the US Navy. Highland Park Police Department is seeking a new police officer, if interested you must have completed the basic courses of police officer by the State of New Jersey as well as having basic training in place and accredited by the New Jersey Police Academy. Applications are available at the Police Department, 222 South 5th Avenue or call the police department for more information. The last day to apply Sunday, September 16, 2018. As the children are going back to school this week, be extra careful when driving throughout the town, be cautious of children and seniors crossing the street, also she asked that everyone please utilize the sidewalks, it is going to start getting dark earlier, people are wearing dark colored clothing walking in the streets and we do not want to see anyone get hit by a car. The Borough is seeking volunteers for our warming center, in the event there is horrific weather we will need volunteers to serve in the warming center at the Senior/Youth Center, applications are available on the Borough's web-site, hpboro.com. A number of e-mails have been received regarding the deer population problem, the Borough has been in touch with Fish, Game and Wildlife, and we are in the process of scheduling a town-wide meeting with them.

Councilman Fine said at the last Council meeting he mentioned that the Borough might be looking into establishing a charitable fund for property taxes, the new federal tax law prevents taxpayers from deducting more than \$10,000 of personal sales and property taxes, in May the New Jersey Legislature attempted a work around on this by passing legislation allowing taxpayers to contribute to certain state sponsored charitable funds and return get a credit against their state income taxes or local property tax. Specifically the legislation passed in May authorized local taxing jurisdiction to create charitable funds and grant property tax credits equal to 90% of voluntary contribution to such funds. In August the IRS issued proposed regulations that won't permit the work around, the IRS said it would consider payments of property taxes to local charitable funds to be of quid pro quo nature and for payments to be considered a charitable contribution the taxpayer cannot receive any benefit in return. At this time, the Borough's Finance Committee will not be pursuing a plan to set up a charitable fund for property taxes.

Councilwoman Welkovits mentioned that the Highland Park Window Art Walk is scheduled for Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 4-7 pm; the work is up now through September 30. The Highland Park Arts Committee sponsors this event.

Councilman Hale said with respect to Councilman Fine's report, the IRS regulation and ruling would prevent New Jersey from using the work around. He said that there would likely be multiple lawsuits that will challenge the IRS ruling about whether or not municipalities could do those work arounds.

Council President George said that with regard to the veterans, he would like to extend a remembrance for Senator McCain who passed away late last week, he was active an active advocate for veterans having been shot down in Vietnam. He noted that the garbage and recycling schedule is going to change for the week of October 9 because Monday is Columbus Day and the Saturday and Sunday before that are the town-wide yard sale, and in the past it has difficult doing the pick-ups, since recyclables do not biodegrade like garbage, recycling will be suspended for that week, trash pick-up will continue on a regular schedule, Tuesday Northside, Triangle and the Business District because Monday is a holiday, and Friday on the Southside, Wednesday and Thursday will be town-wide pick-up. The Environmental Commission is meeting tomorrow night at 8PM at the Environmental Center, they will discussing 2109 agenda as well as updates on existing projects. Shade Tree meets next Wednesday at 7 PM and will be presenting the Emerald Ash problem so we can get that to the County and get it moving. Sustainable Highland Park is meeting on September 26 @ 7:30 PM in the Environmental Center working on phase 2 of removal of plastic from the retail stream. The Native Plant reserve volunteers who work under Shade Tree have applied for a grant, which is on the consent agenda. The grant is sponsor through the College of New Jersey and Sustainable New Jersey and it grants you volunteers as opposed to money it puts boots on the ground and three of the projects they are recommending are improvements to the Meadow Trail, and Environmental Center area. There are many bond issues on the agenda tonight, this was talked about last meeting, with regard to the water meters and valves, hydrants are bonds that are related to the application for low or zero cost long term financing from the Infrastructure Bank. In order to move through Phase 2 we have to show that the Borough is able to finance these projects. At the Art Walk one group will be meeting at 4 pm at Garden Party and the other at Tiger Arts, you can walk to streets, meet the artist, and get the narrative and encouraged everyone to join. He congratulated Councilwoman Foster-Dublin on the opening of Zone 6; this has been a long time goal and looks forward to the opening on the 12th.

Borough Administrator Jover reminded everyone that Borough hall has resumed regular hours today, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8AM-4PM, Tuesday 8AM-6PM, and Friday 8AM-1PM. There is an open position for Assistant to the Borough Administrator and encouraged people to make application on the Borough's web site.

Borough Attorney Schmierer - No report.

Mayor Brill Mittler reported that Labor Day was first established in the 1800's in an effort to bring all of the unions together in a common cause and ensure the safety of their workers. We have come a long way over the centuries but must stay diligent and remember to take care of all of the workers that we have in Highland Park and all over the country and ensure they have safe working conditions. Everyone took a moment of silence to remember the late Senator McCann. We wished everyone who celebrates Rosh Hashanah, and following Yom Kippur a peaceful and meaningful holiday.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Herb Gross, Adelaide Gardens, asked everyone present and everyone watching television to join him in a moment of silence for the late Senator John McCann. Very recently, he attended a meeting and there were hundreds of veterans, he met veterans from all over the country to listen to the late Senator John McCann. At the meeting, there were many United States Senators from both sides of the aisle and a lot were United States Veterans and they came to listen to Senator McCann and what his platform was to be on veteran affairs. We have lost one of the greatest men in the Senate, well respected and when Senator McCann finished speaking he left the stage with three words: God Bless America and don't you every forget that ladies and gentlemen.

No one else appearing to be heard, the Mayor closed the public discussion.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1881 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON FEBRUARY 17, 2015 AND ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AN APPROXIMATE 4.176 ACRE TRACT OF LAND DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 47, LOTS 27-75 ON THE OFFICIAL HIGHLAND PARK TAX MAP, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$1,860,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,767,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF", AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1894 FINALLY ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2015, AS AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1897 FINALLY ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 1, 2015 AND AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 17-1928 FINALLY ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 21, 2017, TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION SET FORTH THEREIN TO INCLUDE THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH. for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1965, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 9-18-235

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1881 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON FEBRUARY 17, 2015 AND ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AN APPROXIMATE 4.176 ACRE TRACT OF LAND DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 47, LOTS 27-75 ON THE OFFICIAL HIGHLAND PARK TAX MAP, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$1,860,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,767,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF", AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1894 FINALLY ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2015, AS AMENDED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-1897 FINALLY ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 1, 2015 AND AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED BY BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER 17-1928 FINALLY ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 21, 2017, TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION SET FORTH THEREIN TO INCLUDE THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LARGE DIAMETER WATER METERS BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,400,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WATER/SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,400,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1966, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Morris, seconded by Councilman Millet, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No.9-18-236

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LARGE DIAMETER WATER METERS BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,400,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WATER/SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,400,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING WATER MAIN VALVES AND HYDRANTS AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$920,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WATER/SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$920,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1967, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Morris, seconded by Councilman Millet, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No.9-18-237

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING WATER MAIN VALVES AND HYDRANTS AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$920,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WATER/SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$920,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$2,287,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,619,040 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1968, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Morris, seconded by Councilman Millet, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No.9-18-238

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$2,287,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,619,040 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported advertising an ordinance entitled, BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF POLICE, FIRE AND PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$315,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$299,990 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF for consideration of passage on final reading by title and that affidavits of publication thereto are on file. She also reported that the ordinance had been posted and made available to the public, as required by law.

On motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote, the above entitled ordinance was taken up on final reading by title.

Mayor Brill Mittler declared the public hearing on the ordinance open to all officials and persons present and called upon all those wishing to speak for or against the ordinance to do so.

No one appearing to be heard and no objections having been received in writing, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

On motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, the ordinance entitled as above, being Ordinance No. 18-1968, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Morris, seconded by Councilman Millet, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No.9-18-239

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF POLICE, FIRE AND PUBLIC

WORKS EQUIPMENT, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$315,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$299,990 IN BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF, passed on final reading at this meeting be delivered to the Mayor for her approval, and if approved by him, that the same be recorded in full by the Borough Clerk in a proper book kept for that purpose, and be advertised by publishing the same by title in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published in this municipality, in the manner prescribed by law.

The Clerk reported that an ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY REQUIRING INSPECTIONS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF CONTINUED OCCUPANCY FOR MULTI-DWELLING AND APARTMENT BUILDINGS AT THE TIME OF SALE, had been introduced in writing by the Economic Development and Planning Committee for consideration of passage on first reading by title.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, the ordinance entitled as above was duly adopted on first reading by title by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote:

No. 9-18-240

WHEREAS, an Ordinance entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY REQUIRING INSPECTIONS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF CONTINUED OCCUPANCY FOR MULTI-DWELLING AND APARTMENT BUILDINGS AT THE TIME OF SALE has been introduced and duly passed on first reading;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that this Council meet at the Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 7:00 PM, for the purpose of considering said Ordinance on final passage after public hearing thereon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said a Notice of Pending Ordinance and Summary of said Ordinance be published once at least one (1) week prior to the time fixed for further consideration of said Ordinance for final passage in the "Home News Tribune", of East Brunswick, New Jersey, a newspaper published in the County of Middlesex and circulating in this municipality, there being no newspaper published daily in this municipality, together with a notice of the introduction thereof and of the time and place when and where said Ordinance will be further considered for final passage as aforesaid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Ordinance shall be posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, forthwith and that the Borough Clerk have available in her office for the members of the general public of Highland Park copies of said Ordinance for those members of the general public who may request the same.

On motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman Hale, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, Resolution No. 9-18-242 was separated from the Consent Agenda.

Resolution Nos. 9-18-241, 9-18-243 through 9-18-2545 were duly adopted on motion made by Councilman Hale, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Absent: Kim-Chohan.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-241

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is authorized to issue an appropriate Duplicate Tax Sale Certificate for #11-00057; Tax Sale Certificate for #13-00051 and #12-00093 in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:5-52.1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the Finance Department and the Tax Collector.

The following resolution, introduced by the Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-243

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park Arts Commission desires to apply for and obtain a Grant from the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Arts Commission is hereby authorized and directed to execute the application for the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage History Grant on behalf of the Borough to the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Liaison to the Arts Commission.

The following resolution, introduced by the Recreation and Arts Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-244

WHEREAS, Sustainable New Jersey has grants of volunteer time available through the TCNJ Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research Opportunity for Volunteer Services; and,

WHEREAS, the grant could provide Volunteer Services Opportunities in Highland Park for possible projects including establishing and/or maintaining a community garden/raingarden, removing invasive species from a park as part of a larger community improvement plan, tree and shrub planting for reforestation and erosion control; and

WHEREAS, the grant could provide significant assistance to the volunteer members of STAC, the Environmental Commission and Sustainable Highland Park in accomplishing their respective missions, and also contributing to the maintenance of Highland Park's Sustainable New Jersey Silver Certification and/or achieve Gold Certification:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is hereby authorized and directed to apply and execute the application for the Sustainable New Jersey has grants of volunteer time available through the TCNJ Center for Community Engaged Learning and Research Opportunity for Volunteer Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Liaison to the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-245

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park ("Borough") desires to contract with a private vendor for purposes providing emergency medical services, and more specifically basic life support ambulance services, to members of the community; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq., the Borough may use competitive contracting in lieu of public bidding for procurement of specialized goods and services, including but not limited to under subsection f. thereof, which allows contracting for emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, under the competitive contracting process, a contract for emergency medical services, if awarded, would be awarded to that entity submitting a proposal that, when evaluated, most successfully meets the stated criteria and, therefore, achieves the highest ranking, rather than based solely on the lowest price; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to conduct the solicitation process for the aforesaid goods and services pursuant to the competitive contracting process as set forth by N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to utilize and administer the competitive contracting process as set forth in N.J.S.A 40A:11-4.1 et seq., to procure a contract for emergency medical services, and more specifically for basic life support ambulance services, pursuant to the rules governing the competitive contracting process.

The following resolution, introduced by the Economic Development and Planning Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-246

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2012, 1177 Raritan Plaza, LLC, heretofore posted with the Borough of Highland Park a surety performance bond, No. FP0017360, issued by First Indemnity of America Insurance Company in the amount of \$143,762.58 and a cash surety bond (check #1089) in the amount of \$15,973.62, for a total amount of \$159,736.20, in connection with a site plan application on the property known as Block 123, Lot 25, in the Borough of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2103, the Borough Council authorized a reduction in performance bond, No. FP0017360, issued by First Indemnity of America Insurance Company by \$111,815.32 to \$47,920.86, subject to payment of all current inspection fees and/or any other outstanding Borough fees; and

WHEREAS, 1177 Raritan Plaza, LLC has requested that the performance bond be released; and

WHEREAS, CME Associates, Borough Engineer has inspected the site in the field and found that all of the required work has been satisfactorily completed and recommends that the bond be released;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the performance bond heretofore posted by 1177 Raritan Avenue in the amount of \$47,920.86 and cash bond in the amount of \$15,973.62 on deposit for Block 123, Lot 25 in Highland Park, shall be and is hereby released, subject to the following:

1. Posting of a 2-year Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$23,960.43.
2. Payment of any outstanding engineering inspection fees.
3. Payment of any outstanding Borough fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough Engineer, the Construction Official and 1177 Raritan Avenue.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-247

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 6-17-216 adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park on the 13th day of June, 2017, a professional services agreement for services of an engineer to provide construction administration services in connection with the installation of an emergency generator at the senior/youth center, in accordance with letter proposal from Bruce M. Koch, CME Associates, dated May 11, 2017, attached to the original of this resolution, in the amount of \$9,915.00; and

WHEREAS, additional services are needed in connection with the project as described in the proposal attached to the original of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose are available in Account No. C-04-55-827-205 in amount of \$8,208.50 and Account No. C8-01-20-165-2EN in the amount of \$791.50, for a total amount not to exceed \$9,000.00, upon adoption of the 2008 budget, as reflected by the Certification of Funds Available by Chief Financial Officer, shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the amendment to the Professional Services Agreement approved on June 13, 2017 by Resolution No. 6-17-216, shall be and is hereby amended to reflect the additional fees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to David J. Samuel, CME Associates, and Chief Financial Officer.

The following resolution, introduced by the Public Safety Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-248

WHEREAS, Engine Four of the Highland Park Fire Department is in need of emergency generator repairs, as more fully described on the attached; and

WHEREAS, the repair is proprietary and will have to go back to the manufacturer for repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended that said repairs be performed by Fire and Safety Services, Ltd., South Plainfield, NJ; and

WHEREAS, funds shall be made available for this purpose in Account No. 8-01-26-315-2FF in the amount of \$7,200.00, as reflected by the certification of funds by Chief Financial Officer shown below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Fire Chief is hereby authorized and directed to accept the quote for the repairs to Engine Four from Fire and Safety Services, Ltd., South Plainfield, NJ, at a total cost of \$7,200.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Fire Chief and the Finance Director forthwith.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-249

WHEREAS, the municipality of the Borough of Highland Park is committed to fostering increased adoption of electric vehicles and needed infrastructure in order to reduce global warming pollution and improve air quality in the municipality, the state, and nationally;

WHEREAS, Electrify New Jersey, in partnership with Jersey Renews, a state coalition promoting the transition to clean, renewable energy in New Jersey, and ChargeVC, an diverse electric vehicle coalition, have developed a comprehensive framework to serve as a roadmap for creating a sustainable and growing EV market in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Electrify New Jersey roadmap includes recommended goals and policy actions designed to:

- Expand public charging infrastructure;
- Foster greater affordability of EVs to increase adoption;
- Ensure sufficient private charging infrastructure;
- Ensure electrification solutions to reach all communities equitably;
- Ensure long term funding for the transportation trust fund;
- Build consumer awareness; and
- Support market development efforts; and

WHEREAS, electrifying the state's transportation system is one of the top priorities stated in the Jan. 1, 2018 recommendations of New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's Environment and Energy Transition Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, the widespread adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) will bring significant economic benefit, including lower electricity rates by recreating a more resilient and responsive electric grid and reduced vehicle operating costs, and substantial emission reductions that result in cleaner air for everyone; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the municipality of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, supports the implementation of New Jersey's Clean Car standards, the ability of states that adopt Clean Car standards to have stronger safeguards to protect the health of New Jerseyans above and beyond federal standards, and in opposition to efforts at the federal level by the current administration or Congress to weaken these standards or usurp local control to protect the state's residents from air pollution from the transportation sector.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded Environment New Jersey, 137 W. Hanover Street, Trenton, NJ 08618

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-250

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the "Redevelopment Law"), authorizes a municipality to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute areas in need of rehabilitation or redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, to determine whether certain parcels of land constitute areas in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law the Municipal Council (the "Council") of the Borough of Highland Park (the "Borough") must authorize the Planning Board of the Borough (the "Planning Board") to conduct a preliminary investigation of the area and make recommendations to the Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council believes it is in the best interest of the Borough that an investigation occur with respect to certain property within the Borough and therefore authorizes and directs the Planning Board to conduct an investigation of the property commonly known as Block 183, Lot 24 on the tax map of the Borough (the "Study Area"), to determine whether the Study Area meets the criteria set forth in the Redevelopment Law, specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3 or 5, and should be designated as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment area determination requested hereunder, in connection with the Study Area, authorizes the Borough and Council to use all those powers provided by the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area, except the power of eminent domain (hereinafter referred to as a "Non-condemnation Redevelopment Area").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. The Planning Board is hereby authorized and directed to conduct an investigation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6 to determine whether the Study Area satisfies the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3 or 5 to be designated as an area in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law.

Section 3. As part of its investigation, the Planning Board shall prepare a map showing the boundaries of the Study Area and the location of the parcels contained therein, and appended thereto shall be a statement setting forth the basis of the investigation.

Section 4. The Planning Board shall conduct a public hearing in accordance with the Redevelopment Law, specifically N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6, after giving due notice of the proposed boundaries of the Study Area and the date of the hearing to any persons who are interested in or would be affected by a determination that the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment. The notice of the hearing shall specifically state that the redevelopment area determination shall not authorize the Borough or Borough Council to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire any property in the delineated area, for the Study Area is being investigated as a possible Non-condemnation Redevelopment Area.

Section 5. At the public hearing, the Planning Board shall hear from all persons who are interested in or would be affected by a determination that the Study Area is a redevelopment area. All objections to a determination that the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment and evidence in support of those objections shall be received and considered by the Planning Board and made part of the public record.

Section 6. After conducting its investigation, preparing a map of the Study Area, and conducting a public hearing at which all objections to the designation are received and considered, the Planning Board shall make a recommendation to the Borough Council as to whether the Borough Council should designate all or some of the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment.

Section 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-251

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Borough Finance Director that since the adoption of a resolution on January 2, 2018 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an annual basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

JAMES CURRAN, Public Safety Telecommunicator, at an annual salary of \$41,784.00 effective September 1, 2018.

DEBORAH RIDDICK SMITH, Crossing Guard, at an annual salary of \$8,677.00, effective September 1, 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Borough Finance Director that since the adoption of a resolution on January 2, 2018 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

XIAOCHEN CHEN, Library Page, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective September 5, 2018.

FINEGAN GIRVAN, Library Page, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective September 5, 2018.

DVIR RAVEE, Recreation Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$16.21, effective August 20, 2018.

ISABELLA GODISH, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

OLIVIA WEAVER, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

MAKENZIE VOLPERT, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

KATIE VOLPERT, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

FREDERICK DIAZ, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

ELI SCHWARTZ, Seasonal Recreation, at an hourly rate of \$8.60, effective August 20, 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Borough Finance Director that since the adoption of a resolution on January 2, 2018 showing the names of the officers and employees of the Borough of Highland Park whose salaries are on an hourly basis, there have been the following changes, to wit:

PATRICIA MCDANIEL, removed as Library Page, effective August 14, 2018.

SUMMER CAMP: All resignations effective August 24, 2018

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Director be is hereby directed to make the necessary changes in the payroll records of the Finance Department in accordance with the changes established by this resolution.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-252

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the adopted ordinance number 17-1940 of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey requiring the registration of vacant and abandoned properties; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Highland Park had collected payments in error with regards to the above referenced provisions, as such amount were collected from third party representatives ie: (lien holders); and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector of the Borough of Highland Park has certified refund amounts are due on the below amounts, whereas found to be required.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the Borough Finance Director be and is hereby authorized and directed to remit the following described property the amount of the Vacant and Abandoned Properties Registration fees:

REFUND TO	PROPERTY	AMOUNT OF REFUND
Trystone Capital Assets PO Box 1030 Brick NJ 08723 PM-00001	805 Eden Avenue	\$1,509.23
Trystone Capital Assets PO Box 1030 Brick, NJ 08723 PM-00018	147 Barnard Street	\$ 500.56
BV002 Trust & Creditors	109 North 6th Ave	\$ 500.56

c/o Blue Virgo Capital Management
164 Mason Street, 2nd Floor South
Greenwich, CT 06830
PM-00025

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Finance Director, Tax Collector and Code Enforcement Officer.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-253

WHEREAS, the Transfiguration of the Lord Church has made application to the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park for a license to hold, operate and conduct a On-Premises Raffle in accordance with the Raffles Licensing Law (NSJA 5:8-50 to 76), on October 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has made or caused to be made an investigation of the qualifications of said applicant and the merits of said application and have determined that said applicant is qualified to hold, operate and conduct Raffles in accordance with the Raffles Licensing Law and the findings set forth in the attached Form 5A of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall be and is hereby authorized and directed to issue a license to the Transfiguration of the Lord Church for the holding, operation and conduct of a raffle on the above date upon payment of a legal fee therefor, subject to the provisions of the Raffles Licensing Law and the rules, regulations and amendments thereto promulgated by said Control Commission.

The following resolution, introduced by the Finance Committee, was duly adopted as above:

No. 9-18-254

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that all claims presented prior to this meeting as shown on a detailed list prepared by the Borough Treasurer, and which have been submitted and approved in accordance with Highland Park Ordinance No. 1004, shall be and the same are hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall include in the minutes of this meeting a statement as to all such claims approved as shown in a Bills List Journal in accordance with said Ordinance.

The bills approved for payment at this meeting, Bills List 9/4/2018 can be found in the Bills List Journal Book No. 37.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstain: Councilman Hale.

Absent: Councilwoman Kim-Chohan.

No. 9-18-242

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highland Park is interested in conducting an archival study to examine police department traffic stop and/or street stop data; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, that it does hereby authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement with De Lacy Davis Consultants LLC to conduct an archival study to examine police department traffic stop and/or street stop data.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall send a certified copy of this Resolution to De Lacy Davis Consultants LLC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk shall publish notice of this award of contract.

Mayor Brill Mittler appointed William Winfrey to serve as a member of the Safe Community Emergency Response Team for a term to expire December 31, 2018.

The above appointment was confirmed on motion made by Councilwoman Foster-Dublin, seconded by Councilwoman Welkovits and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Foster-Dublin.

The following resolution, introduced by the Council as a Whole, was duly adopted on motion made by Councilwoman Welkovits, seconded by Councilman George, and carried by the following roll call vote, to wit:

Ayes: Councilpersons, Fine, Foster-Dublin, George, Hale, Welkovits.

Opposed: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Kim-Chohan.

No. 9-18-255

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the closed session at close of tonight's open session.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

(Litigation: (a) Buck Woods update)

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public when these matters are resolved or as soon thereafter as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mayor Brill Mittler opened the meeting for public discussion and called upon all those wishing to speak to identify themselves.

Ruth Bickhardt, 307 Magnolia Street, said that work was done some time ago on traffic lights but not on the main avenue, on the corners by the intersections on 3rd, 4th and Magnolia and for some reason as she approaches in the evening with her dog the streetlight suddenly goes out and before that it was shining bright. She said that 3rd and Magnolia desperately needs repaving, it is full of patched potholes.

Mayor Brill Mittler asked Lt. Hammill to have that addressed for Ms. Bickhardt. Lt. Hammill indicated that he would have this looked into.

There being no one further appearing to be heard, the Mayor closed the public discussion.

There being no further business, on motion made by Councilman George, seconded by Councilman Fine, and carried by affirmative voice vote of all Councilpersons present, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM to go into executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Santiago
Deputy Clerk

DRAFT